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Editorial

The *Water Quality Research Journal of Canada* (WQRJC) has been published continuously for 45 years, which makes it one of the oldest such peer-reviewed journals in the field, publishing in English and in French. Started as proceedings of the annual conference of the Canadian Association on Water Quality (CAWQ), it has evolved into a quarterly journal which attracts high-level papers from Canada and abroad. While the names of both the WQRJC and CAWQ have changed slightly over the years to reflect the trend of our international partner, the International Water Association (IWA), the Journal has been very closely tied to the CAWQ since its inception, both as a primary source of articles and through the formal arrangement of CAWQ as publisher. Environment Canada has been a major supporter by granting the Journal office space at the CCIW in Burlington and contributing part of the time of the Managing Editor, and we have benefited enormously from the volunteer efforts of Editors and Associate Editors in Canada, as well as reviewers from numerous countries.

In light of many forces of change affecting our sponsor as well as the publishing industry, the CAWQ Board of Directors decided in mid-2010 to explore whether a closer link could be established with IWA Publishing (IWAP), the publishing arm of IWA in London, with a view to moving this component of the Journal to be under the IWAP umbrella. Although full editorial control would remain with CAWQ, and the nature of the WQRJC would remain the same, both would benefit from the increased international exposure which IWAP offers, as well as the economies of scale resulting from an operation already involving 12 journals for the water sector.

I am delighted to report that starting with Issue 1, Volume 46 (2011), publication of the WQRJC will be undertaken by IWAP. The transition from Burlington to London will hardly be evident to authors, Associate Editors,

reviewers, and readers, as the publishing software which we have been using for several years is the same as that used by IWAP. The submission website url will also remain unchanged. Furthermore, our philosophies regarding subject matter and quality of articles match very closely. We will have a new Managing Editor, Emma Gulseven, who has had over ten years experience at IWAP with journal publication, and I'd like to welcome her on board. At the same time I'd like to thank our former Managing Editor, Janet Jardine, with whom most readers of this Editorial will be familiar, for her sterling work over the past four years in moving the Journal into the era of fully electronic publishing.

Moving to IWAP will allow us to achieve faster turn-around times. Having overcome a backlog which has developed over the past few years, IWAP plans to publish the journal on schedule, to ensure efficient peer-review and fast publication, with submitted papers being published online within four months of acceptance. IWAP has assured me that high quality papers submitted over the period closely following publication of this Issue 1, Volume 46 (2011) will have a high probability of being published in Issue 4 of the same volume, and that the aim is to publish all issues in their actual calendar year.

I invite my colleagues in the field of water quality research to submit their papers for consideration for publication in the *Water Quality Research Journal of Canada*, under its new publishing arrangements. I can assure you of our continued maintenance of the standards which have been established, and that your papers will be handled in efficient fashion. Furthermore, we expect vastly increased exposure and readership over the coming years due to IWAP's extensive publishing reach.

Ronald Gehr, Chief Editor